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Times Herald

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Editor and Publisher

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1952

ENTERED AS SECOND CLASS MATTER MAY 14,
1903, AT THE POSTOFFICE AT WASHINGTON,
D. C., UNDER ACT OF MARCH 3, 1879.

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AMERICANS WHO SHOULD BE ELECTED IN NOVEMBER

Following are candidates for national
office in Maryland and Virginia the
Times-Herald recommends for election:

MARYLAND

For the Senate—J. Glenn Beall, Repub-
lican.

For the House—First district, Edward
T. Miller; Second district, James P.
Devereux; Third district, Jerry Toula;
Fourth district, Samuel Hopkins; Fifth
district, Frank Small jr.; Sixth district,
Dewitt S. Hyde; Seventh district, Wil-
liam F. Laukaitis, all Republicans.

VIRGINIA

For the Senate—Harry Flood Byrd,
Democrat.

For the House—Sixth district, Richard
H. Poff, Republican; Seventh district,
Burr Harrison; Eighth district, Howard
W. Smith, Democrats; Ninth district,
William C. Wampler, and Tenth district,
Joel T. Broyhill, Republicans.

GEN. SMITH SHOULD RESIGN

It is fantastic that the Democrats would
be so reckless of our national safety as to
drag even the spy system into the Presi-
dential campaign as an attempted shield
against their record on communism.

But that is what they have done. And more
fantastic yet, the head of the spy system is
helping them do it.

Gen. Walter Bedell Smith is chief of the
Central Intelligence agency. As such he has
one job and one job only, to spy on com-
munism abroad and to keep spies of com-
munism from getting into the United States.

Within the United States it is the job
of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to
get inside the Communist party, spy on it
and catch Communist spies, wherever they
go, from White House to street corner.

What would you say if J. Edgar Hoover
chief of the FBI, were to turn up as a
defense witness in a libel suit, spouting
opinions about matters of high political
tension and giving his views on which man
in office is doing a good job or a bad one?

Hoover has been in the Department of
Justice 35 years. He has been hot on the
heels of the Communists all of that time.
He took their measure at the very moment
of their measure, at the very moment
never let up.

CIA after a series of conspicuous failures in
its leadership and organization.

He has been lavished with money, legal lati-
tude and opportunity to get on with his job.
Congress has let him alone. The newspapers
have let him alone and the public has let
him alone.

But the Democrats have not let him alone.

A few days ago, Sen. William Benton, the
Connecticut windbag, got Smith on the wit-
ness stand in a private lawsuit. Sen. Joe
McCarthy of Wisconsin has sued Benton for
\$2,000,000 libel and Benton is perspiring.
So—of all things—the chief of our espionage
and counter espionage system turns up as
one of Benton's friendly witnesses.

Everybody knows how Smith, on cross-
examination, let drop some high-explosive
remarks about communism's power to pene-
trate our government. What he said was true,
and it was political dynamite. But the general,
professing astonishment, begged all hands not
to drag his organization into the campaign
and the Republicans, like little gentlemen,
went along.

They sacrificed powerful truth about a
vital subject, from a supposedly competent
witness, to avoid any appearance of taking
political advantage at the expense of the
national safety.

And what was the harvest? On Monday of
this week, Smith appeared before the Demo-
cratically controlled House committee on un-
American activities and gave a plain, unvar-
nished and inexcusable political address to
the effect that Harry S. Truman is a first-
class fighter against communism.

This is the same Truman who flopped at
Potsdam, said that he "liked old Joe Stalin,"
called the Hiss case a "red herring," and has
fought every attempt in Congress and out
to reveal the truth about Communist pene-
tration of our civil government.

Truman's record needs no reviewing here.
We all know it.

How Smith could say what he did, knowing
that record and knowing how his words
would be used in this political campaign, we
leave to him and his private conscience.

He has, in his appearance as a Benton
defense witness and a Truman defense wit-
ness, utterly and irrevocably destroyed im-
partial confidence in the CIA.

The quicker he gets out and the quicker
CIA is junked, the safer for this nation.
One thing we cannot tolerate is the develop-
ment of a politically inspired and politically
influenced espionage system. No citizen, no
law, no element of our national life is secure,
when the chief of the CIA sets such an
example for his invisible armies.

Republicans and Democrats have come and gone in all the high and low offices in this capital. Every trick and threat and blandishment and bribe that the political has been waved in front of his eyes, to get Hoover to pitch political curve for one or another of them.

Who can point to a single instance in which this singularly gifted and patriotic citizen has deviated from his duty?

Surely, he has uttered in public many a time, he has appeared in movies, on the radio, in television, has written books, magazine articles, given newspaper interviews and has spoken at countless dinners and in countless meeting halls.

But what has he said? For one thing, he has educated his listeners on the importance of making law enforcement a profession so that the innocent may be protected from blundering error and the guilty identified with precision. For another, he has educated his listeners on the origins, patterns and true character of domestic criminality.

Hoover has knocked the gaudy spots off criminal glamor, and set little boys to playing G-man, instead of gangster.

But most importantly, he has more than any other government official, educated the nation on the chilling truth about communism, its scope, power, purposes and accomplishments.

He has done this above and beyond and outside the important work of building up the FBI as a law-enforcement organization, and the equally important work of shielding of the FBI from political penetration and perversion.

But in all his 35 years of government service, Hoover has never said anything about any President of the United States, any Secretary of State, any senator or general, that anybody could quote or point to as political absolution or political condemnation.

Contrast, on the other hand, the performance of Gen. Smith.

The Central Intelligence agency is a baby at its work, compared with the FBI. During World War II, there was formed up some thing called the Office of Strategic Services, under Brig. Gen. William Donovan, who had a good record in World War I as a combat officer, and a following record of typical political law practice in New York State. Gen. Donovan was a titular Republican, but the secret know he made in OSS was to hook up with James Roosevelt in certain maneuvers of strictly domestic flavor, too out of date and complicated to unravel here, but in essence wholly out of line with the alleged purpose of the OSS to spy and counterspy on the national enemy spy systems abroad.

The withering Roosevelt touch put the hex on OSS from the start so that it took ultimate shape as a hangout for wealthy playboys with a Fu Manchu-E. Phillips Oppenheim mania for mystery play, professors with an itch to meddle in other people's business, and lots and lots and lots of beautiful young lady secretaries to make the day's work less burdensome.

What the taxpayers got for their money the country will never know, for OSS was operated strictly on the cash voucher system. But this much is known: when the war ended, it was knocked on the head instantly, and all records were destroyed or impounded.

The CIA was its successor, supposed to be built on the basis of bitter experience, hard realization that communism plays for keeps, and consciousness that no man knows for sure just where the enemy moves in the murky world of espionage.

Gen. Smith succeeded to command of the